

## Applications for Membership

The IPAS Commission is looking for people who have knowledge and expertise about disability issues, but more importantly it is looking for individuals that want to make a difference in the disability community.

To obtain an application for membership to either the IPAS Commission or Mental Illness Advisory Council, contact IPAS at 800.622.4845 or TTY:800.838.1131.

## Statement of Funding

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These contents are solely the responsibility of the grantee and do not necessarily represent the official views of state or federal government.

The federal grants in the amount of \$2,250,492 make IPAS' services possible.



You may acquire a copy of the IPAS established priorities by calling the phone numbers or writing to the address in the next column.

## Contact IPAS:

Indiana Protection and Advocacy  
Services Commission  
4701 N Keystone Ave., Suite 222  
Indianapolis, IN 46205

### VOICE:

317.722.5555  
800.622.4845

### TTY:

317.722.5563  
800.838.1131

### FAX:

317.722.5564

### WEB:

[www.IN.gov/IPAS](http://www.IN.gov/IPAS)

## An Equal Opportunity Employer

Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services provides services to all individuals with disabilities within the guidelines set forth by federal legislation regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, age, sex, ancestry or disability.

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Commission

## INDIANA PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SERVICES COMMISSION AND MENTAL ILLNESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

### ADVOCATING FOR THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES



THE PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SYSTEM FOR INDIANA  
TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES,  
THROUGH EMPOWERMENT AND ADVOCACY  
MEMBER NATIONAL DISABILITY RIGHTS NETWORK

## Join the IPAS Commission or Mental Illness Advisory Council

IPAS is always looking for new Commission and Mental Illness Advisory Council (MIAC) members to help serve the needs of individuals with disabilities. Members must have a commitment to promoting the legal and civil rights of people with developmental disabilities, mental illness or other disabilities, and to the cause of protecting and promoting those individuals' rights to make their own choices.

For more information, or to obtain an application for membership, contact 800.622.4845 or TTY: 800.838.1131.

## Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services Commission (IPAS)

Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services Commission's mission is to protect and to promote the rights of individuals with disabilities, through empowerment and advocacy. Created in 1977 by state law (IC.12-28-1-6) as amended, it is an independent state agency which receives no state funding and is independent from all service providers, as required by federal and state law.

IPAS is a congressionally mandated, legally based disability rights agency. IPAS has the authority to provide legal representation and other advocacy services, under all federal and state laws to people with disabilities based on a system of priorities. To defend the human, legal and civil rights of people with disabilities, Congress established Protection and Advocacy systems in each state. IPAS provides these services in Indiana.

IPAS is governed by a 13-member commission, which sets the agency's priorities and is advised on mental illness matters by a mental illness advisory council (MIAC).

## About the IPAS Commission

Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services (IPAS) Commission assures legal and advocacy services for the protection, promotion and empowerment of the rights and interests of individuals with disabilities. The IPAS Commission provides direction and advice on the agency's activities, goals and policies.

By federal law, Commission members must broadly represent or have knowledge of the needs of individuals served by the Protection and Advocacy system, such as individuals with developmental disabilities who are eligible for services, or parents, family members or advocates of people with disabilities. Additionally, the Chair of the Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services Mental Illness Advisory Council (MIAC) is a member of the IPAS Commission. The IPAS Commission consists of 13 members. Four members are appointed by the Governor, and remaining members are placed by a majority vote of the Commission. Members serve three-year terms and may not serve more than five consecutive terms.

Serving on the IPAS Commission in an advisory, non-voting capacity is one member of the Indiana Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and one member of the Indiana House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

## About the Mental Illness Advisory Council (MIAC)

The Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI) regulations mandate that an Advisory Council (MIAC) exists to advise the IPAS Commission on policies and priorities that affect the rights of individuals with mental illness.

The MIAC members are appointed by either the Governor or the Commission. Members of the council shall include attorneys, mental health professionals, individuals from the public who are knowledgeable about mental illness, the advocacy needs of persons with mental illness and have demonstrated a substantial commitment to improving mental health services, a provider of mental health services, individuals who have received or are receiving mental health services and family members of such individuals.

At least 60 percent of the membership of the advisory council shall be comprised of individuals who have received or are receiving mental health services or who are family members of such individuals. At least one family member shall be a primary care giver for an individual who is currently a minor child or youth who is receiving or has received mental health services.

Members serve three-year terms and may not serve more than five consecutive terms.



*"THE IPAS STAFF IS TRULY DEDICATED TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS THROUGH EMPOWERMENT AND ADVOCACY, JUST AS IT'S MISSION STATES. THE DETERMINATION OF EACH STAFF MEMBER IS OBVIOUS IN THE WORK THAT IS DONE. I AM PROUD TO BE A SMALL PART OF SUCH AN AGENCY."*

**- MARY ALTER, IPAS COMMISSION MEMBER**

*"I CONSIDER IT A GREAT HONOR AND A PRIVILEGE TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING IPAS AS A MEMBER OF THE IPAS COMMISSION. IT HAS BEEN A VERY REWARDING EXPERIENCE TO WORK WITH THE IPAS STAFF AND FELLOW COMMISSION MEMBERS WHO ALL SHARE A STRONG PASSION FOR PROMOTING AND PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF OUR CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES."*

**- DOUG GOEPPNER, IPAS COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON**



*"WORKING WITH THE IPAS STAFF AND OTHER MENTAL ILLNESS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS HAS BEEN A VERY REWARDING AND EMPOWERING EXPERIENCE FOR ME. NETWORKING WITH OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS HAS SHOWN HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO WORK TOGETHER TOWARD COMMON GOALS."*

**- LARRY WIESENAUER, MENTAL ILLNESS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER**